

#### This Issue:

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- New Capitol Rideshare website
- Commuter contest winners
- And More!

A bimonthly publication from Capitol Rideshare capitol rideshare.az.gov

# Capitol Rideshare partners with GRID Bikes to offer discounted plan for state employees

GRID Bike Share has a system of strategically placed bikes throughout Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa featuring the bright green bikes that are available for short-term rental. Many bike stations, referred to as hubs, are located near Valley Metro transit centers and stops along light rail and bus routes, which offer a convenient commute link for employees. In recent weeks, GRID Bike Share has established four new hubs in the Capitol Mall area: Washington and 12th Ave., Washington and 15th Ave., Adams and 17th Ave., and Jefferson and 17th Ave. When Capitol Rideshare learned that GRID Bike Share was working to install new hubs in the Capitol Mall area, we reached out to their team to discuss how we could partner to bring this service to state employees. Through this partnership, unveiled in September, state employees can sign up for an annual GRID Bike Share membership for \$30, a considerable discount off the \$15 monthly pass.

Neil Urban, Capital Planner with ADOA General Services Division, made the initial contact with GRID Bike Share to learn how to bring the service to the Capitol Mall. "I saw the GRID bikes downtown and realized that there were no GRID bikes on the Capitol Mall. I contacted GRID to see about getting them installed and facilitated GSD's coordination with GRID to make it happen."

To promote this partnership, GRID Bike Share hosted a "Happy Hour at the Hub" event at the bike station on Washington and 15th Ave. on September 19, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.



GRID Bike's Lisa Parks explains the GRID sign-up process to an interested employee

This gave employees in the area the chance to meet Lisa Parks and Shawna Hash from GRID and learn how the bike share model works. Jasmine Matus from Capitol Rideshare was also available to talk employees about the discounted GRID plan for state employees.

### Lunch and Learn: Bike to Work!

Capitol Rideshare followed up GRID Bike Share's Happy Hour at the Hub with a Lunch and Learn: Bike to Work event on September 21. Guest speakers, including Suzanne Day from Valley Metro, Michael Sanders from ADOT, Lisa Parks from GRID Bike Share and Kerry White, an avid cyclist who works at ASRS, spoke to more than 40 employees about bike safety, route planning, local cyclist groups, bike sharing and other resources available to novice cyclists as well as more experienced riders. The speakers brought along give-aways and door prizes. Suzanne's <u>PowerPoint presentation</u> from the event is included on the new Capitol

Rideshare website at capitolrideshare.az.gov under the Share the Ride menu.

Karen Ray, an employee at the Department of Corrections, attended the Lunch and Learn session to learn more about the GRID program and resources to build her confidence to pursue this mode of transportation. "The cost for the account was affordable and I anticipate using it to commute to work, once or twice a week, in the near future!"

For folks who use transit to commute to work, having the GRID bikes available makes it easier to run errands or leave for lunch. This is particularly helpful in the Capitol Mall area, where lunch options are limited and where parking downtown is a challenge. Anna Haney, who works at the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, saw that opportunity with a GRID hub by their building. "I anticipate I will use the bikes to ride to any meetings or events along the capitol mall, such as attending the farmers market or grabbing lunch!"

Several employees see this as a great opportunity for exercise as well. Pat Schuler, an employee at the Arizona Supreme Court, also attended the Lunch and Learn and signed up for a GRID account. "I enjoy getting out and away from my desk during lunch and often just take a



Willie Sommers, an employee with the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management, won a \$30 gift certificate from GRID Bikes at the Lunch and learn event.

walk around my building. I can now ride for a change of pace, as well as meet up with friends in the heart of the downtown for lunch. Parking has always put a damper on going into downtown and being able to ride a bike into the area will open up a whole new world!"

#### **GRID Bike partnership**

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Neil was one of the first state employees to sign up for the discounted membership. "The program for State employees is far and away the best value of any similar program. My wife works downtown, so I plan to bike to lunch."

This reduced rate is **available ONLY through the Capitol Rideshare** offer! Visit <u>www.gridbikes.com</u> and scroll through the Group Membership plans. The <u>state employee signup</u> is under the Capitol Rideshare logo. A valid state email address is required to register. Restrictions apply.



### **Announcing the July Clean Air Challenge winners!**

As the summer heat always brings high ozone warnings, the Capitol Rideshare program responds with a Summer Clean Air Challenge, which runs one week each in June and July. The Rideshare team challenged employees to use an alternate mode at least once during the challenge week, then enter the contest and share their alternate mode. Employees from more than 50 agencies took the challenge! Twenty contest winners, including one grand-prize winner, were chosen at random. Three winners were chosen in a separate drawing exclusively for Commuter Club members. Among our winners, nearly every alternate mode was represented: biking, bus, light rail, car pool, compressed work week and teleworking.

#### These commuters each won a \$10 Lyft gift card

Ametrice Robinson Economic Security

Gerald van Mourik Education

Amelia Sowers Health Services

Sangita Shukla Economic Security

Gina Moojen Health Services

Colin Rodney Economic Security

John Vivian Juvenile Corrections

Wendy Boyle Criminal Justice Commission

Michele Kelley Transportation
Cheryl Golbeck Health Services

Cassie Goodwin Gaming
Traci Mellilo Corrections
Diana Harrison Corrections

Eric O'Tool Economic Security
Mari Underwood Economic Security
Nadine Sapien Legislative Council
Ruben Vargas Secretary of State
Venor Elman Corrections
Lorena Mendez Transportation
Dan Gardner Real Estate

Jack Spence Economic Security
April Jones Economic Security

#### And the grand prize winner is...

Jude Wickelgren from the Department of Economic Security was the grand prize winner! Jude received \$20 in Ultratainment gift certificates and \$20 in Lyft rideshare credits!

# Visit our table at the Benefits Fair and register for a chance to win!

Capitol Rideshare will be on site at Benefits Fairs throughout Maricopa County; be sure to stop by our table to learn how we can assist with your commute needs!

While you are there, fill out an entry form and we will draw winners from each site we visit!

# October is Rideshare month! Lyft is offering a discount to Commuter Club members and Valley Metro is sponsoring contests; share the ride and win!

October is Rideshare Month and Lyft is helping us celebrate those who share the ride by offering a seasonal discount exclusively to Commuter Club members! If you use an alternate mode at least twice a week—carpool, transit, vanpool, alt fuel vehicle, telework or compressed work week—be sure to sign up for Commuter Club to get your discounts and other benefits!

Valley Metro is promoting <u>Rideshare Month</u> through a high-visibility campaign and contests. Visit the site, log your alternate modes and win! If you haven't visited their ridesharing site in while, take a look and see what's new at SharetheRide.com.



## The Capitol Rideshare website has a new look!

Multiple sites combined into a single comprehensive website

Capitol Rideshare has just launched its redesigned website with new domain: capitolrideshare.az.gov. The new site combines elements from three former individual Capitolrideshare.com, the most frequently visited site for commute solutions; TeleworkArizona.com, which held only telework content; and a page for travel reduction coordinators (coordinators) aztrpcoordinator.com.

The redesign allows for a one-stop shop for employees, coordinators and the public. The new site carries over the essential services from the previous sites: online applications for parking permits,



Platinum Passes, vanpool, and Commuter Club; information for employees and managers who are interested in telework options; and resources for the travel reduction coordinators.

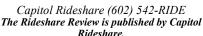
Viewers will also discover new features: a news page features RSS feeds from stakeholder organizations and a Twitter feed from mission-related organizations, as well as the traditional daily air quality forecast. The site also features photos and other visual enhancements.

"We decided that Capitol Rideshare website was due for an update, in appearance and function," said Matt Hanson, Assistant Director for Grants and Federal Resources. "We wanted to make it easier for employees to locate all travel reduction information in a single place. We also want the user to know they are visiting a state government site."

Be sure to visit the pages within the site for additional resources for commuters—and let us know what you think!

Need to find someone to share the ride? Log on to SharetheRide.com and complete a matchlist. It takes just a few minutes and it is confidential. It is a great way to find someone who shares your commute! Need help? Call us at 602.542.7433.

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